

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An information identification system, comprising:

5 a platform-framework software module which includes executable instructions to receive input from a user;

a data-type software module which includes executable instructions to identify types of data that might be returned to the user, the types of data being selected from a list of possible types of data based on input from the user;

10 a service-descriptor software module which includes executable instructions to identify valid actions corresponding to each identified type of data, the valid actions being selected from a list of possible actions;

a first information-search software module which includes executable instructions to identify a first set of information corresponding to a first one of the identified valid actions;

15 a second information-search software module which includes executable instructions to identify a second set of information corresponding to a second one of the identified valid actions;

a processor, capable of executing at least one of the software modules; and

a user interface, capable of providing the sets of information to the user such that the first set of information is more easily accessed by the user than the second set of information.

20 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a platform-aware software module which includes executable instructions to identify an environment in which the user is providing input.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein the data-type software module includes executable instructions to select the types of data based on the environment.

25 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the types of data include phone numbers.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the types of data include universal resource locators.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the types of data include names of human beings.
7. The system of claim 1, wherein the types of data include names of locations.
8. The system of claim 1, wherein the types of data include searching addresses.
9. The system of claim 1, wherein the valid actions include searching a data base of phone
5 numbers.
10. The system of claim 1, wherein the valid actions include searching a data base of universal resource locators.
11. The system of claim 1, wherein the valid actions include searching a data base of names of human beings.
- 10 12. The system of claim 1, wherein the valid actions include searching a data base of names of locations.
13. The system of claim 1, wherein the valid actions include searching a data base of addresses.
14. The system of claim 1, wherein the executable instructions of the first information search
15 software module include instructions to parse a database of information from which the first set of information is identified.
15. The system of claim 1, further comprising a duplicate-identifier software module, which includes executable instructions to identify duplicate information, the duplicate information being information that appears in the first set of information and the second set of
20 information.
16. The system of claim 15, wherein the duplicate-identifier software module includes executable instructions to remove the duplicate information from the second set of information.
17. The system of claim 1, further comprising a learning software module, which includes
25 executable instructions to track preferences of the user and determine from the preferences whether the sets of information should be provided to the user such that the second set of information is more easily accessed by the user than the first set of information.

18. A method of identifying information, comprising:

receiving input from a user;

identifying types of data that might be returned to the user, the types of data being selected from a list of possible types of data based on the input from the user;

5 identifying valid actions corresponding to each type of data identified, the valid actions being selected from a list of possible actions;

identifying a first set of information corresponding to a first one of the valid actions;

identifying a second set of information corresponding to a second one of the valid actions;

10 providing the sets of information to the user such that the first set of information is more easily accessed by the user than the second set of information.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising identifying an environment in which the user is providing input.

20. The method of claim 18, further comprising identifying an environment and selecting
15 types of data based on the environment.

21. The method of claim 18, further comprising parsing a database of information from which the first set of information is identified.

22. The method of claim 18 further comprising identifying duplicate information, the duplicate information being information that appears in the first set of information and the
20 second set of information.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising removing the duplicate information from the second set of information.

24. The method of claim 18, further comprising tracking preferences of the user and determining from the preferences whether the sets of information should be provided to the
25 user such that the second set of information is more easily accessed by the user than the first set of information.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein tracking preferences is accomplished by tracking the frequency with which the user selects information from the sets.

26. The method of claim 24, wherein tracking preferences is accomplished by tracking the recently selected information from the sets.